GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3175
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2016
National Anthem
Kumar Shri Ashwini

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make singing of National Anthem mandatory in all Government and Government aided schools in the country;
(b) whether the Government also proposes to bring a suitable legislation in this regard; and
(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)
(a): No, Madam. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, effective from 1st April, 2010, provides for free and compulsory education to every child of age six to fourteen years in a neighbourhood school till the completion of elementary education in all States and UTs except Jammu and Kashmir. Section 29(2)(a) of the RTE Act provides that the academic authority, while laying down the curriculum and the evaluation procedure under sub-section (1), shall take into consideration the following, namely:-
(a) Conformity with the values enshrined in the Constitution;
Further, Article 51-A (a) of the Constitution of India mentions that it shall be the duty of every citizen of India to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem. As education is in the concurrent list and a majority of schools are under the jurisdiction of the State Governments and UT Administrations, it is for them to take necessary action for observance of the above provisions of RTE Act and the Constitution of India.
(b): No, Madam.
(c): Does not arise.
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